SKY MASTERS

JUDGE PARKER

BLONDIE

BEN BOLT

LIL ABNER

REX MORGAN

ARCHIE

JULIE JONES

POGO

RIP KIRBY

Garden Notes

Sprout Spuds Inside

By M. V. CHESNUUT, FRHS

In our spring gardening operations, we have become accustomed to the idea of starting some of our seeds indoors. Tomatoes, cucumbers and squash seeds are usually sown in a greenhouse, heated coldframe, or even on a sunny kitchen window sill, so that by the time the soil outdoors has warmed up and all danger of late frosts has passed, we have plants nicely established and well on their way to maturity.

It doesn't seem to be so generally realized that potatoes can be given a head start, too. This isn't a messy job at all, as you don't have to plant them in soil, and there are a lot of advantages to this business of pre-sprouting your seed potatoes.

For one thing, you get a bigger and earlier crop. For another, you can delay planting outdoors until the soil has dried off and become warm and congenial, and this without any loss of earliness. But the biggest advantage, to my mind, is that by sprouting your spuds before planting, you can detect any defective or diseased tubers and discard them.

The easiest way to start seed potatoes into growth is to place them in a shallow box or seed flat, sitting them up on end with the most prominent eyes uppermost. This is the end farthest away from the plant which bore it, and you can often find the remains of the tail or cord at the other end.

Your tray of spuds will sprout quite nicely without any soil or water, although if you want to go whole hog, you could fill the flats with damp peat moss first and bed down the tubers in this. They **MUST** have lots and lots of light, though, and cool, airy conditions. It is bad business to attempt the forcing of eyes into growth through warmth and darkness, as the whole object of the sprouting operation is to develop short, sturdy shoots of a good green color. The long white shoots which sprout in a dark basement are useless.

The trays may be kept in an unheated greenhouse, coldframe or sunporch, but if none of these are available, a sunny window of a coolish room will do. It pays, too, to shift them outdoors during spells of balmy weather, bringing them in again at night to escape possible late frosts and chilling.

Once the spuds have sprouted, it is a good idea to rub off all the shoots except the two healthiest and sturdiest. In this way, all the energy contained in the seed tuber will be channelled into just two shoots, and this will give you not necessarily a bigger crop, but a much higher proportion of eating-size potatoes and fewer of the golf ball and marble-sized "chats".

Early February is a good time to start this operation, or as soon as certified seed potatoes appear on the market. Don't plant potatoes bought in a food store, as these are often treated to prevent them from sprouting and to improve their keeping quality.

The beauty of pre-sprouting is that you don't have to be in any rush about getting the tubers into the ground. If you give them lots of light and avoid high temperatures, they will make steady growth in the sprouting trays—as much or more than if they were in the ground—and you aren't losing any growing time by waiting until the soil warms up and the weather becomes settled.

The Viewing World — *By John Crosby*

The Upsetters of Dignity

The Three Stooges, who had been in a little bit of an eclipse, are back in business and flourishing after a single exposure on Steve Allen's show and I couldn't be happier about it. Moe Howard was cornered and asked how he felt about the state of comedy in general and his in particular.

"I have always found, over the years," said Mr. Howard, "that youngsters were always a large part of our audience. They were about 12 years old in the days when we started. Well these youngsters never forgot us and now they're 35 or 36-year-old youngsters. So we have them in all age brackets.

I don't know if a youngster knows what we base our format on but I do know he loves the result. We base it, of course, on the upsetting of dignity. There are endless ways to upset dignity. We hit a man with a high hat and tails in the face with a pie, or we turn social lions into bums.

★ ★ ★

"We subtly, the three of us, always go into an area of life which we don't understand. If we're going to go into society, the picture opens on us as garbage collectors. I think we appeal to all age brackets, and all class brackets. We do stupid things but they're excusable because we don't know any better."

Moe is the little mean stooge and I asked him if the reception of his act had changed over the years. He beamed: "Now, little three-year-old girls throw their arms around my neck and say 'I love you' and this is something new for me. The kids used to hiss me or throw things at me.

I even remember when my son used to scare my niece by showing her a picture of me in costume. But now people sympathize more and more with the misunderstood guy.

★ ★ ★

"We're not as sadistic as Westerns, which to my mind are as violent as gangster movies. Kids don't mind seeing somebody get it over the head so long as they know that person will get right up. In Westerns, kids are likely not to understand or not to like it when somebody doesn't get up.

He points out that people want to laugh so badly that even in the depression people would spend their last two bits going to the movies or theatre.

"The trouble with comedy on television, of course, is over-exposure.

In the old days, when a studio had a comedian, they pampered him. If comedy is overdone or if it goes on too long, the public gets a chance to think about it too much. That's one of the reasons we never contracted to do a feature. We didn't think we could hold it up.

But on television, a comedian goes on every week. Jack Benny is a little smarter than the rest. He only goes on twice a month. And I'm getting a little tired of him.

★ ★ ★

"You have to remember that an entertainer must use the same technique as a salesman uses. Never give the buyer time to think about it too long or you've got resistance. You've got to keep chirping away."

He brooded a moment over the death of burlesque and stock and all the training grounds for comedy. Then he said: "I've enjoyed working on television. But the more I watch television, the less respect I have for the general TV audience. I don't understand how they can watch so many Westerns, for instance. They are the same, over and over again. In a Western—I don't care what kind of stories they use—there just better be a horse in there somewhere."

Hollywood Today — By Sheilah Graham

Linda Comes, Liz Goes

HOLLYWOOD (NANA) — **Linda Christian** moves back into her Bel Air home in May, and **Elizabeth Taylor** is moving out. Liz and **Eddie Fisher** should be married by then. Linda is installing herself in the home she shared with husband **Tyrone Power,** with their two daughters, **Romina** and **Taryn,** who are in Mexico with Linda's mother.

★ ★ ★

Marlon Brando is being different—doesn't wear a gun holster in "One Eyed Jacks," but carries his six-shooter stuck in his belt, a la **Billy The Kid.**

★ ★ ★

Mama **Jolie Gabor** flew to Miami Beach's Eden Roc from Palm Springs to look over **Eva's** latest millionaire, **Dick Brown.**

★ ★ ★

Sir Laurence Olivier's 21-year-old son, Tarquin, is sidestepping an acting career in favor of the diplomatic service. Taruin played a small part in "Eagle Squadron" several years ago. It cured him of the acting bug, evidently.

★ ★ ★

Victor Mature gets the lead in "Downfall," by mystery experts **Mildred** and **Gord Gordon.** . . . And **James Mason** and **David Niven** will co-star in "The Reason Why," about the ill-fated charge of the Light Brigade during the Crimean War. It will be made in England this summer.

Ben Gazzara and **Elaine Stritch** have rekindled their old flame. . . . While **Jeff Chandler's** estranged wife **Marge,** and **Steve Stanford,** are nearing the serious stage. They may wed after her divorce from Chandler.

★ ★ ★

Brigitte Bardot's younger sister, to overcome the career handicap of the Bardot tag, will use her first name, **Mijanou,** for her acting career. Mijanou scorns low necklines and high hemlines and says she will get by on her acting ability, or not at all.

★ ★ ★

Morton Da Costa, busy writing his musical adaptation of "Saratoga Trunk" for Broadway, wants **Elsa Martinelli,** Italian actress, for the **Ingrid Berman role.** Da Costa writes, directs and co-produces this one.

Winning Contract

Vul: Both

NORTH
♠ A 10 9 7
♡ K Q 9 6 4
◊ K Q
♣ 6 2

WEST
♠ 6 5 2
♡ 10 8
◊ 8 7 5
♣ Q 8 7 5 4

EAST
♠ 3
♡ J 5 3 2
◊ A J 10 6 3
♣ K 9 3

SOUTH (D)
♠ K Q J 8 4
♡ A 7
◊ 9 4 2
♣ A J 10

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♡	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 N.T.	Pass	5 ◊	Dbl.
5 ♡	Pass	5 ♠	All Pass

Opening lead: ◊ 7

Most North players would have temporized with two hearts and jump-raised spades later. North's jump-shift bid of three hearts was a highly aggressive choice, in spite of his excellent support for spades. Nevertheless, his hand was slightly strong for a jump to three spades. The double raise usually has a top limit of 15 points, and North's hand was worth a good 16—counting his two doubletons. The orthodox solution of North's problem is a bid of two hearts followed by a strong jump-raise in spades later.

However, North's skip in hearts should have opened up the way to slam. South marked time with a spade rebid; then bludgeoned North with Blackwood. The four no-trump call boomeranged because, despite South's good five-heart bid, North was forbidden to go past the five-level after partner's Blackwood call took command. South feared to go on over five spades lest a diamond lead give East two defensive tricks.

A little cue in the play let South make six. East won the opening lead, and returned a club. South took the ace, played three rounds of trumps and three high hearts. A fourth heart was ruffed, and a diamond led to the king. Now South's last club was sluffed on dummy's long heart; a club ruffed by South, and a diamond trumped with dummy's last spade.

An interesting situation arises if West opens a club. South must win the ace, play only two rounds of spades, and then cash the ace and king of hearts. A third heart is ruffed high, and dummy entered by drawing West's last trump. Now the two losing clubs are sluffed on the long hearts, and a diamond trick conceded. Note that against the club lead, declarer would be set if he drew three rounds of trumps before establishing dummys hearts.

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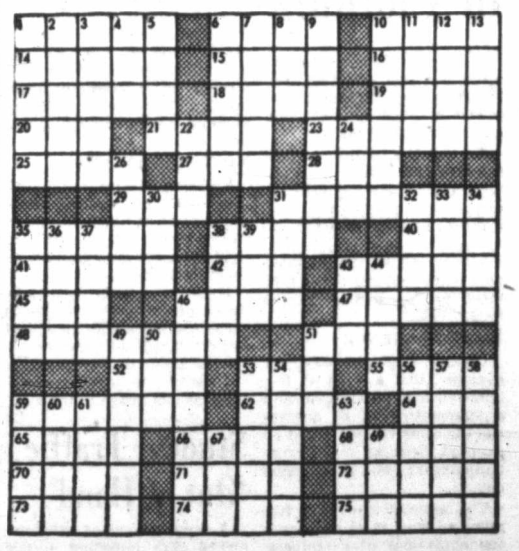
The Daily Cross-Word Puzzle . . .



ACROSS

1. Wearies.
6. Courage.
10. Wheeled vehicle.
14. Idolize.
15. City of Nevada.
16. Beverage (pl.).
17. Appendage to a document.
18. Hindu charitable gift.
19. Protective ditch.
20. Pedal digit.
21. Wings.
23. Candles.
25. Hail.
27. Pronoun.
28. Unclose (poet.).
29. Mature.
31. More clever.
35. Choice part.
38. Consumes.
40. Yellow buzle.
41. Attendant on sick.
42. Falsehood.
43. More rational.
45. ..... Parseghian, Northwestern grid coach.
46. Season.
47. Saltpeter.
48. Speak of.
51. Stroke lightly.
52. Gold in Spanish American countries.
53. Owns.
55. Move as if driven forward by something.
59. Only filly to win Kentucky Derby.
62. Send forth.
64. Collection of facts.
65. Sandarac tree.
66. Valorous man.
68. Month.
70. Against.
71. English boys' school.
72. Island in Mediterranean.
73. Accomplishment.
74. Warbled.
75. Carries.

DOWN

1. Kind of pastry (pl.).
2. Simpleton.
3. Roundup.
4. Before.
5. Serous fluid (pl.).
6. Large.
7. Interprets.
8. Feminine name.
9. Jungle drums.
10. Tenter out.
11. Succulent plant.
12. Raise.
13. Makes lace edging.
22. Falsehood.
24. The wallaba.
26. Strokes lightly.
30. Command to horse.
31. Let it stand.
32. Delicate hue.
33. At any time.
34. Unusual.
35. Hindu charitable gift.
36. Entice.
37. Persia.
38. Ardor.
39. Trouble.
43. Nahoor sheep.
44. River islands.
46. Refreshes.
49. Hot.
50. Anger.
51. Greek letter.
53. Long-legged bird.
54. Amid.
56. Mark of omission.
57. Join.
58. Ravines.
59. Electric catfish.
60. Sea eagle.
61. Portal.
63. Skill in dealing with delicate situations.
67. Greek letter.
69. Paid athlete.

Answer to Previous Puzzle:

M	A	R	C		F	L	A	T	S		A	G	L	E
A	R	I	A		E	A	S	E	L		E	L	I	E
S	E	L	A		A	L	E	S	E		P	A	E	N
T	A	R	T	A	R		A	T	E		E	L	E	C
			E	V	E	R		S	T	O	A			
C	O	L	L	A	T	E	S		I	N	T	E	R	L
E	L	I	S		A	L	I	K	E		R	I	F	
L	E	A		S	A	R	O	N	G		O	P	E	
T	A	N		A	R	S	O	N			P	L	A	C
S	N	A	R	E	R		P	E	N	C	I	L	L	E
			I	R	E	S		A	I	G	T			
S	L	I	D		S	T	A		M	E	S	S	E	L
L	A	D	E		T	O	W	E	S		K	O	L	A
I	G	E	R		E	N	O	S	H		T	E	E	L
Y	E	A	S		D	E	N	E	S		S	L	I	E

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